

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system for use in controlling a hydrocarbon production well has a computer at a control location remote from a well tree of the well. A processor at the well tree applies control signals to and receives signals from devices of the well tree. The processor also receives further signals associated with the operation of the well. A bi-directional communication link extends between the remote computer and the well tree processor. The well tree further has a communications router coupled with the processor and receiver, for multiplexing the signals from devices at the well head and the further signals on to the bi-directional link.